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the internal operations of the Department as delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Administration.

(7) Conduct a program of research on the economic feasibility of new uses of agricultural products. Assist agricultural researchers by evaluating the economic and market potential of new agricultural products and techniques in the initial phase of development and contributing to prioritization of the Departmental research agenda.

§ 3700.4 Authority to act for the Administrator.

In the absence of the Administrator, the following officials are designated to serve as Acting Administrator in the order indicated:

Associate Administrator

Director, Commercial Agriculture Division Director, Food and Consumer Economics Di-

Director, Natural Resources and Environment Division

Director, Rural Economy Division

Director, Information Services Division

Director, Office of Energy and New Uses

PART 3701—PUBLIC INFORMATION

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3701.1 General statement.

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301 and 552; 7 CFR part 1, subpart A.

SOURCE: 60 FR 66862, Dec. 27, 1995, unless otherwise noted.

§3701.1 General statement.

This part is issued in accordance with the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture in part 1, subpart A of this title, implementing the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) (5 U.S.C. 552). The Secretary's regulations, as implemented by the regulations in this part, govern the availability of records of the Economic Research Service (ERS) to the public.

§ 3701.2 Public inspection, copying, and indexing.

5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2) requires that certain materials be made available for public inspection and copying and that a current index of these materials be published quarterly or otherwise be made available. Members of the public may request access to such materials maintained by ERS at the following office: Information Staff, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, 6303 Ivy Lane, Room 456, Greenbelt, MD 20770; Telephone (301) 344-2207. Office Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

§3701.3 Request for records.

Requests for records of ERS shall be made in accordance with §1.6 (a) and (b) of this title and submitted to the FOIA Coordinator, Agricultural Research Service, USDA, 6303 Ivy Lane, Room 456, Greenbelt, MD 20770; Telephone (301) 344–2207, Facsimile (301) 344–2325, TDD (301) 344–2425. The FOIA Coordinator is delegated authority to make determinations regarding such requests in accordance with §1.3(a)(3) of this title.

§3701.4 Denials.

If the FOIA Coordinator determines that a requested record is exempt from mandatory disclosure and that discretionary release would be improper, the FOIA Coordinator shall give written notice of denial in accordance with §1.8(a) of this title.

§ 3701.5 Appeals.

Any person whose request is denied shall have the right to appeal such denial. Appeals shall be made in accordance with Section 1.6(e) of this title and should be addressed as follows: Administrator, Economic Research Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, DC 20250.

§ 3701.6 Requests for published data and information.

Information on published data from ERS programs is contained in the ERS "Reports" newsletter, available without cost from the Economic Research Service, Information Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture, 1301 New York Avenue, NW., Washington, DC 20005.